

**TOWN OF WILSON  
SHEBOYGAN, COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
APPROVED MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2016 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**Call to Order** - Chairman Ehmann called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Posting in accordance with open meeting law was confirmed and the meeting was declared an open meeting.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – was declared

**Approval of the Annual Meeting Draft Minutes, April 21, 2015** - Motion by Greg Hopkins- 346 Edge Water Road, second by Kathy Rammer – 3010 Old Park Road to approve the draft minutes as written, by majority of voice vote the minutes were approved.

**Introduction and Report from the Town Chair** – Chairman John Ehmann touched on the agenda topics, explained this is the people's meeting and the powers of the electorate; a handout of the state statutes 60.10 outlines this meeting. Chair Ehmann introduced the Board, Chair Ehmann, Supervisors, Dan Rostollan, Nancy DesJardins, Tom Stoelb and Brian Hoffmann who was absent at the introduction and arrived at 8:10 pm. Clerk Georgene Lubach, Treasurer Julie Evans, Sanitary Clerical Assistance Mandy Tran, Maintenance/Road Supervisor Rick Meyer.

Chair Ehmann reported on the completion of Schinker Creek Park. Parks and Forestry is continuing to work on updating Town Parks and Conservancies. An Ad Hoc Committee has been implemented to review how we continue to use our parks and conservancies. Currently the Town is working on a joint project with the City and County to produce a non-motorized multi-use utility path through the utility corridor from Lake Shore Drive, through Business Drive and ending at the proposed soccer fields. The Kohler Golf Course is still at the DNR level. After all State and DNR approvals it will come to the Town for the Town process. The 20-yr Comprehensive Plan is required to be updated and re-evaluated every ten years, an Ad Hoc Committee has been chosen and will begin this process. Fire Protection services are being evaluated, an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate where we are today and where the town needs to be in ten years with a plan to help us get there. An Ad Hoc Committee was established to look into funding for garbage disposal services and alternative ways to look at collection of the garbage. A referendum will need to be placed on the ballot for the public to vote on. Chair Ehmann urged the residents to attend these meetings and express their input. At the Sanitary District meeting last year a request was made to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to review the structure of the Sanitary District. This was established and the Ad Hoc Committee determined to retain the existing structure and hire an Engineering Consultant. SEH has been the engineering firm hired to evaluate the District and the developing Emergency Plan is at the top of the list.

**Financial and Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2015** - A financial handout was provided, Chair Ehmann reviewed this handout explaining this is the first year the Town had to borrow money.

**Reports by Supervisors** – Supervisor Stoelb reported on the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Garbage Disposal, sharing the Town is limited to increasing user fees to offset this cost. A referendum is needed to establish a user fee to cover a cost for garbage, more information will become available. Supervisor DesJardins shared she is starting her 2<sup>nd</sup> term, thanked the residents for allowing her to serve another two years and urged the residents to come to meetings, learn and be involved. DesJardins thanked Chair Ehmann for his huge amount of time he puts in, establishing these Ad Hoc Committees and thanked him as a professional leader. Thanked the Volunteers of the First Responders and the Black River Fire Dept. for their time and urged the residents to call her if they have concerns. Supervisor Rostollan thanked the residents, expressed how important it is to attend this meeting and to participate in their Town Government. As Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to the study of the Fire Dept. they are working with the fire department, the interest is to move to a municipal fire department and the goal is to have the best fire department around. Supervisor Rostollan shared concerns of State Government where they have cut funds at the municipal level and urged residents to question their legislators as to this happening.

**Wage and Salary report and action on next term salaries for elected officers** – Present from the Committee was Fred Stone, who reported the committee carefully evaluated the wages for the elected seats, term of 2017/2018 for the two constables, the two supervisor seats and the chairman. After evaluating the economy they recommended a 2 ½% increase. Motion by James Tobin - 317 Pioneer, second by Jayne Zabrowski - 212 White Tail Run to approve Wage and

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Salary's recommended 2 ½ % increases for the 2017/2018 elected terms. Under discussion residents expressed concern why Wage and Salary would recommend too increase wages due to the Town's Finances. Fred Stone shared they were not aware of the Town's finances but were tasked with the evaluation of what these positions are currently being paid and added these positions are not high paying positions. Constables are not paid a large salary, they do this job because they like what they are doing and do it for the Town. By hand vote 38 – ayes, 41-nays, motion failed.

**Committee and Commission Reports; Black River Fire Dept., First Responders, Park and Forestry, Ad Hoc Committee to Study Chapter 30, Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Fire Dept. and Plan Commission; Questions from the Public -** President of the Black River Fire Dept., Kory Wendlandt shared as of today the fire department is very strong, and well equipped. The Ad Hoc Committee to study the Fire Dept. previously mentioned it is logistics for the future of the fire department and the town to plan for the future and a ten-twenty-year plan. Parks and Forestry, Greg Hopkins provided an update on the Ad Hoc Committee review of Chapter 30, and shared Schinker Creek Park opened last year. Volunteers installed playground equipment, restroom facility, walking trail, a pavilion and urged residents to visit and enjoy the facility.

Phil Mersberger – 9759 Middle Road questioned Kory if the fire dept. is in favor or against becoming a municipal fire dept. Kory, replied in favor with discussion of the logistics with the town. Several residents asked questions of the board concerning this study and the issues of the governing structure. They were informed this will be determined from this Ad Hoc Committee and urged to attend the meetings.

David Gartman – 5509 Moenning Road questioned the custom of Schenck, who was not at this meeting and what the status is of the audit and hoped the audit would not be over looked. Chair Ehmann assured that the audit would not be over looked.

Questions and answers were received concerning the financials, Chair Ehmann provided explanations, offered to sit down with anyone and show them the financials. The Town is running in a deficient and we had to borrow to get through the 2016 budget this needs to be turned around and fixed.

Residents questioned and discussed continuing concern of the disposal of garbage, why there is a study to charge for garbage disposal, questioning why it is unsustainable. Supervisor Stoelb shared the four proposals from the Ad Hoc Committee; do nothing which is unsustainable to continue, charge approximately \$170 a year for curbside pickup with the maintenance site open limited for leaf, yard waste drop off. Charge approximately \$80 for residents to drop off or close the facility. Chair Ehmann shared it is very unusual for a town of our population to not charge for garbage collection, we are providing this service for free, garbage collection is not a town responsibility per state statute. Discussion continued, questions were asked by residents and many of these concerns and questions were also answered by fellow residents.

Phil Mersberger – 9759 Middle Road, concerned about the 60 acres that could be annexed if there have been negotiations and questioned providing water to the Town. Chair Ehmann explained the land owned by Wilson Land Holdings, due to litigation over that land and the court's ruling in their favor, this has not been possible. Providing water is an option however it will come to a high cost to residents.

Matt Gartman – 7630 Moenning Road, questioned the new appointment to the Plan Commission, this resident is not a town resident and this individual would be making a decision on zoning. Chair Ehmann shared Mike Lappin is the President of Wilson Mutual. They have a desire to get more involved with the town, are very committed to the Town and great leadership. Chair Ehmann expressed he is trying to build talent with a diversified background on the Plan Commission.

**Selection of the 2017 Annual Town Meeting –** The 2017 Annual Meeting will be held per Statute the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in April on April 18, 2017.

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**Public input, questions or new business pertinent Wis. Stat. § 60.14 -**

Kathleen Rammer – 3010 Old Park Road, apologized if residents were offended by the information that was handed out at the beginning of this meeting and asked the residents to follow along as she read the Resolution. Motion by Mark Rammer - 3010 Old Park Road, second by Ron Gildner – 1037 Janewood Lane to implement the read Resolution. Discussion continued if this would be applicable to the Kohler CUP and this would need to be reviewed by legal counsel. High capacity wells were discussed, several residents expressed concern the sandy soil and the amount of water that would be needed to maintain greens, good scientist will be needed to determine this. Residents discussed and questioned the situation of their wells and the right of the town to hire experts to evaluate these big projects but not at residents cost.

Bob Werner - 210 Bleyer Drive questioned the resolution which reads "Re-Zoning" and pointed out every project needs some kind of rezoning either Ag to Residential and this would affect all developers if it is too difficult developers won't do the project.

Kathy Rammer – 3010 Old Park Road, explained this will protect the Town from big builders coming into the Town, allowing the Town Board the ability to hire experts to study huge projects and protect the residents.

Residents shared multiple concerns for and against the resolution and many questions were asked about this type of resolution. By hand vote 16 - ayes, 45 - nays motion failed.

Bill Gartmann - 5003 County Hwy OK West, asked who of the town board members signed the petition to raise their hand and question which of the board members signed the petition please raise their hand.

Greg Hopkins – 346 Edgewater Road, questioned which petition, as a town resident he would like to know.

Mary Ann Bergin – 2135 Lake Aire Drive, stated, any board member that signed the petition should abstain from voting for the proposed Kohler Golf Course when it comes before the board. When she was on the Plan Commission everyone told her she should not vote because she worked for Kohler Company. When the Tented Forest was before the Plan Commission she abstained. Anyone that signed the petition or is against the Kohler Golf Course should abstain.

David Schmitt – 5200 Moenning Road, asked if this is a motion. Mary Ann Bergin said yes, this is a motion.

Chair Ehmann informed the public this is not a valid motion and this is not the power of the electors per statutes.

Many residents began to speak over other residents and dialog continued discussing this topic.

Carol Dell – 5621 Evergreen Drive, spoke concerning the changing of the nature preserve, the environment, and if the DNR is closely looking at these concerns along with the concerns of the wells in the area or the birds in the area. You should not be prevented from voting if you have these concerns or that a CUP is properly implanted at the later stages. Shared that the elected officials were elected by the people, these people should have an opinion and it is possible to change your view at the later stages after you have more information.

Supervisor DesJardins shared she contacted the Wisconsin Town's Association to discuss this issue and that it is impossible not to have an opinion. WTA legal advice - you need to be fair to both sides, you will never find someone that does not have an opinion.

David Gartman – 5509 Moenning Road, shared in the past motions made were approached as advisory and Town's legal was contacted.

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Mary Ann Bergin – 2135 Lake Aire Drive, Motion by Mary Ann, second by David Schmitt that any town board member or chairman who signed the petition against the proposed Kohler Golf Course should abstain from voting on the Kohler Golf Course when it becomes in front of the board.

Duane Bigelow – 322 W Evergreen Drive, I think this is one of the craziest thing that I have ever heard of. You are elected officials, where does an elected official at local, state or national level required to not have opinions. Governors sign petitions, why would we tie the hands of the people that are trying to help govern the affairs at the town board level.

By hand vote 31 - ayes, 21 - nays motion carried. It was noted this is an advisory motion.

Adjourn - Motion by Mike Bergin - 2135 Lake Aire Drive, second by Fred Stone – 1730 Sunnyside Court to adjourn the annual meeting at 10:23 p.m. on voice vote motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted: Georgene Lubach, Clerk